

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1.-4. (cancelled)

5. (previously presented) A method for processing an overloaded key on a mobile device, said method comprising:

- receiving a key press of the overloaded key to be processed from a buffer;
- determining whether the function of the overloaded key has switched; and
- clearing any subsequent overloaded key presses of the overloaded key from the buffer when said determining determines that the function of the overloaded key has switched,

- wherein the overloaded key is a Clear/Back key that supports a clear function and a back function.

6. (previously presented) A method for processing an overloaded key on a mobile device, said method comprising:

- receiving a key press of the overloaded key to be processed from a buffer;
- determining whether the function of the overloaded key has switched; and
- clearing any subsequent overloaded key presses of the overloaded key from the buffer when said determining determines that the function of the overloaded key has switched, wherein the overloaded key is a Back/Exit key that supports a back function and an exit function.

7. (previously presented) A method for processing an overloaded key on a mobile device, said method comprising:

- receiving a key press of the overloaded key to be processed from a buffer;
- determining whether the function of the overloaded key has switched; and
- clearing any subsequent overloaded key presses of the overloaded key from the buffer when said determining determines that the function of the overloaded key has switched,

- wherein the overloaded key is a Clear/Back/Exit key that supports a clear function, a back function and an exit function.

8.-9. (cancelled)

10. (original) A method of processing a Clear/Back key on a computing device having a display, said method comprising:

(a) displaying user entered text in a text entry screen on the display of the computing device;

(b) displaying a cursor at the end of the user entered text on the display of the computing device;

(c) receiving a Clear/Back key press;

(d) determining whether at least one character of the user entered text remains backwards from the cursor;

(e) deleting the character immediately backwards from the cursor when said determining

(d) determines that at least one character of the user entered text remains backwards from the cursor;

(f) determining whether said deleting has caused no more characters of the user entered text to remain;

(g) setting a timestamp when said determining (f) determines that said deleting has caused no more characters of the user entered text to remain;

(h) determining whether a predetermined amount of time has passed since the timestamp was set with respect to a previous Clear/Back key press when said determining (d) determines that no characters of the user entered text remain backwards from the cursor;

(i) ignoring the Clear/Back key press when said determining (h) determines that the predetermined amount of time has not yet passed since the timestamp was set; and

(j) returning back to a prior screen when said determining (h) determines that the predetermined amount of time has passed since the timestamp was set.

11. (original) A method as recited in claim 10, wherein said method further comprises:

(k) resetting the timestamp when said determining (h) determines that the predetermined amount of time has not yet passed since the timestamp was set with respect to a previous Clear/Back key press.

12. (original) A method as recited in claim 10, wherein the computing device is a mobile device.

13. (original) A method as recited in claim 12, wherein the mobile device is a personal digital assistant or a cellular phone.

14. (original) A method as recited in claim 12, wherein the mobile device is a two-way mobile communication device having limited input keys, one of the input keys being the Clear/Back key.

15. (original) A method of processing a Back/Exit key on a computing device having a display, said method comprising:

- (a) receiving a Back/Exit key press while operating in a first application mode on the computing device;

- (b) determining whether a home screen is presently being displayed on the display;

- (c) returning to display of a prior screen on the display when said determining (b) determines that the home screen is not presently being displayed;

- (d) determining whether the prior screen is the home screen;

- (e) storing a time indication when said returning (c) displays the prior screen if said determining (d) determines that the prior screen is the home screen;

- (f) determining whether the home screen has been displayed for at least a predetermined amount of time based on the stored time indication when said determining (b) determines that the home screen is presently being displayed;

- (g) ignoring the Back/Exit key press when said determining (f) determines that the home screen has not been displayed for at least the predetermined amount of time; and

- (h) exiting the first application mode when said determining (f) determines that the home screen has been displayed for at least the predetermined amount of time.

16. (original) A method as recited in claim 15, wherein the first application mode pertains to a network browser application mode.

17. (original) A method as recited in claim 15, wherein the computing device is a mobile device.

18. (original) A method as recited in claim 17, wherein the mobile device is a personal digital assistant or a cellular phone.

19. (original) A method as recited in claim 17, wherein the mobile device is a two-way mobile communication device having limited input keys, one of the input keys being the Back/Exit key.

20.-23. (cancelled)

24. (previously presented) A computer readable medium including at least computer program code for processing an overloaded key on a mobile device, said computer readable medium comprising:

computer program code for receiving a key press of the overloaded key to be processed from a buffer;

computer program code for determining whether the function of the overloaded key has just switched; and

computer program code for clearing any subsequent overloaded key presses of the overloaded key from the buffer when said computer program code for determining determines that the function of the overloaded key has just switched,

wherein the overloaded key is a Clear/Back key that supports a clear function and a back function.

25. (previously presented) A computer readable medium including at least computer program code for processing an overloaded key on a mobile device, said computer readable medium comprising:

computer program code for receiving a key press of the overloaded key to be processed from a buffer;

computer program code for determining whether the function of the overloaded key has just switched;

computer program code for clearing any subsequent overloaded key presses of the overloaded key from the buffer when said computer program code for determining

determines that the function of the overloaded key has just switched; and wherein the overloaded key is a Back/Exit key that supports a back function and an exit function.

26.-31. (cancelled)

32. (previously presented) A method as recited in claim 5, wherein said method further comprises:

setting a pause period for the overloaded key when said determining determines that the function of the overloaded key has switched so that subsequent presses of the overloaded key are ignored during the pause period.

33. (previously presented) A method as recited in claim 5, wherein said method comprises:

determining whether the overload key press occurred during the pause period;
and

processing the overloaded key press when said determining determines that the function of the overloaded key has not switched and said determining determines that the overloaded key press did not occur during the pause period.

34. (previously presented) A method as recited in claim 5, wherein said determining whether the function of the overload key has switched comprises determining whether the function of the overloaded key has transitioned from a first function to a second function since its last key press.

35. (previously presented) A method as recited in claim 5, wherein the mobile device is a personal digital assistant or a cellular phone.

36. (previously presented) A method as recited in claim 5, wherein the mobile device is a two-way mobile communication device having limited input keys, one of the input keys being the overloaded key.

37. (previously presented) A method as recited in claim 6, wherein said method further comprises:

setting a pause period for the overloaded key when said determining determines that the function of the overloaded key has switched so that subsequent presses of the overloaded key are ignored during the pause period.

38. (previously presented) A method as recited in claim 6, wherein said method comprises:

determining whether the overload key press occurred during the pause period;
and

processing the overloaded key press when said determining determines that the function of the overloaded key has not switched and said determining determines that the overloaded key press did not occur during the pause period.

39. (previously presented) A method as recited in claim 6, wherein said determining whether the function of the overload key has switched comprises determining whether the function of the overloaded key has transitioned from a first function to a second function since its last key press.

40. (previously presented) A method as recited in claim 6, wherein the mobile device is a personal digital assistant or a cellular phone.

41. (previously presented) A method as recited in claim 6, wherein the mobile device is a two-way mobile communication device having limited input keys, one of the input keys being the overloaded key.

42. (previously presented) A method as recited in claim 7, wherein said method further comprises:

setting a pause period for the overloaded key when said determining determines that the function of the overloaded key has switched so that subsequent presses of the overloaded key are ignored during the pause period.

43. (previously presented) A method as recited in claim 7, wherein said method comprises:

determining whether the overload key press occurred during the pause period;
and

processing the overloaded key press when said determining determines that the function of the overloaded key has not switched and said determining determines that the overloaded key press did not occur during the pause period.

44. (previously presented) A method as recited in claim 7, wherein said determining whether the function of the overload key has switched comprises determining whether the function of the overloaded key has transitioned from a first function to a second function since its last key press.

45. (previously presented) A method as recited in claim 7, wherein the mobile device is a personal digital assistant or a cellular phone.

46. (previously presented) A method as recited in claim 7, wherein the mobile device is a two-way mobile communication device having limited input keys, one of the input keys being the overloaded key.